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BOOK REVIEWS.

A TREATISE ON THE LAWS GOVERNING THE EXCLUSION AND EXPULSION OF ALIENS IN THE UNITED STATES. By Clement L. Bouvé, of the District of Columbia Bar. Washington, D. C., John Byrne & Co., 1912, pp. xxvi, 915.

This treatise, of rather formidable size, deals with a comparatively untouched but limited field of our Federal law,—the rules governing the admission of aliens into the United States. As the author notes, it is designed to show that, apart from the administrative and international law aspects of the subject, “the acts of Congress the purpose of which was to regulate the admission and residence of aliens in the United States, together with the judicial decisions by which they have been enforced, form a distinct and important branch of our municipal law.” The purpose and plan of the work, which is to be characterized as laboriously comprehensive rather than lucid, involves a lengthy review of these acts of Congress and the relevant cases and, as might be surmised, fits it particularly for those of the legal profession who are interested in the subject.

The first section of the text devotes itself to a consideration of the power and methods of expulsion. After a few brief and general statements as to the limitations imposed by international law upon the right to exclude, too brief in fact, the most significant portions of the several treaties and acts of Congress involving the admission of aliens are quoted and discussed. Special notice is given to the treatment of Chinese. A rather exhaustive running commentary upon the present immigration law in which the pertinent cases and opinions are cited, follows this section. In the next the question is viewed from a different angle,—that of status. A successive treatment is given to “international,” “personal,” “preliminary” and “municipal” status and then follows a valuable title upon the status of domiciled aliens. The final sections of the treatise touch upon deportation procedure. Some appendices, containing among other things a valuable summary of foreign laws relating to the exclusion of aliens, together with a useful index, complete the volume.

In general the treatise represents a careful consideration of the statute law and cases and at all events will be found quite exhaustive. Indeed, the difficulty is that there is so much redundancy of technical detail that the underlying principles of international and municipal law have been but insufficiently treated, and as a result the broad plan of the work is not as clearly defined as it might be. The strictures to be passed upon it concern not so much the faithfulness with which the materials have been gathered as the method and outline employed by the writer. The author’s outline involves him in the necessity of repeating himself to a considerable extent and his practise of giving abstracts of a large number of the cases cited and of frequent quotation brings in a considerable amount of unnecessary material. Thus the first two chapters on “Power and Methods” and

on "The Existing Immigration Law" trench to a degree upon the two following chapters concerning status and the judicial review of administrative decisions. The sentence-structure also is complicated and turgid even for a treatise on law: it may be said in some cases almost to out-German the Germans in length and involution. In truth, the work can scarcely be said to approach that ideal of clear-cutness of outline and clarity of expression which it is so difficult and so needful to attain. The importance of this to a treatise even on law is obvious, for to a large extent the definiteness of the impression carried away by the reader is dependent upon the terseness and accuracy of the author's generalizations. The more refractory the matter the more necessary this is. It is altogether probable that this work would have been the better and not the worse for a rigid compression of the same subject-matter into a much narrower compass.

The use of the following words is probably due to mistakes in proof-reading, "clear" p. 13, "important" p. 56, "principals" p. 144, "exclusion" p. 491.

H. E. Y.

ELEMENTOS DE DERECHO INTERNACIONAL PUBLICO. By Manuel Torres Campos. Third Edition. Madrid. Libreria de Fernando Fe, 1912. pp. 570.

ELEMENTOS DE DERECHO INTERNACIONAL PRIVADO. By Manuel Torres Campos. Fourth Edition. Madrid. Libreria de Fernando Fe, 1913. pp. 502.

Professor Torres Campos has now made his elementary treatises on Public and Private International Law more available for use in College instruction, which is their main purpose, by bringing them up to date, and beyond that also, for he takes a forward as well as a retrospective look in dealing with each subject. In one respect it may be questioned whether the future may not show that he has pressed too far the theory of the absolute equality of nations, when met in international conferences of an official nature. The course of proceeding at that for the better regulation of radio-telegraphy, held in 1912, shows that small powers can be brought to admit their practical inequality with great powers, by conceding to the latter a plural vote. Of course, the ultimate acceptance of the results of such an assembly must remain a matter for the proper authorities of each government to determine. Whatever such international conferences vote must be adopted only *ad referendum*. But any rule recommended will carry weight internationally, in any country, even though it be a weak one, very much in proportion to the support it has received from the great powers.

The author brings in one new authority in international law, whose recognition as such will be heartily welcomed by all those on whom of late years the right of suffrage has been conferred. This is Madame de Staël. In her *L'Allemagne*, a hundred years ago, he says, she brought out first, and with her customary keenness of observation and brilliancy of effect, the necessity of having each State formed by a single nation, penetrated by a sentiment of unity, with a common language, and the same customs and usages, in a word, the principle of nationalities, as a panacea against disorder and war.